

The invention claimed is:

1. A system for providing personalized context information for use with onboard vehicle devices, said system comprising:
 - an input for accessing and receiving context information;
 - an identifier for identifying context information related to a person as personal context information;
 - a data storage device having memory for storing the identified personal context information;
 - an interface for communicating the data storage device with a plurality of onboard vehicle devices; and
 - an agent for downloading personal context information to one or more of the vehicle devices.
2. The system as defined in claim 1, wherein the stored personal context information from at least one of a personal digital assistant and a phone.
3. The system as defined in claim 1, wherein the input receives personal user preference information from at least one of an off-board service provider and a vehicle centric device.
4. The system as defined in claim 1, wherein the input receives personal user preference information from at least one of a personal digital assistant and a phone.
5. The system as defined in claim 1, wherein the interface comprises a wireless interface.
6. The system as defined in claim 1, wherein the plurality of vehicle devices comprise a personal electronics device and a vehicle control module.
7. The system as defined in claim 1, wherein the user preference information comprises user preference settings.
8. The system as defined in claim 1, wherein the data storage device is portable.

9. A method of providing personalized context information for use with onboard vehicle devices, said method comprising the steps of:
- monitoring information from one or more sources;
 - identifying information related to a person as personal context information;
 - storing the identified personal context information in memory;
 - communicating with an onboard vehicle service; and
 - downloading at least some of the stored personal context information to the vehicle device.
10. The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the step of storing the identified personal context information comprises storing an address pointer in memory indicative of the source of the personal context information.
11. The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the step of monitoring information from one or more sources comprises monitoring the information from at least one of an off-board service provider and a vehicle centric system.
12. The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the step of communicating with an onboard vehicle device comprises communicating with a plurality of devices comprising a vehicle context module and a personal electronics device.
13. The method as defined in claim 6 further comprising the step of detecting a presence of a user personal device, wherein the personal context information is sensed from the user personal device.
14. The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the step of communicating with the onboard vehicle device comprises wireless communication.
15. The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the personal context information comprises user preferences.
16. The method as defined in claim 9 further comprising the step of transporting the memory as a portable memory device.